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VOL. I NO. 69

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1946.

Price 20 Cents

## BLUM'S OVERWHELMING VOTE OF CONFIDENCE

### WARNING OF HARSH MEASURES AHEAD

### FRESH SACRIFICES BY COUNTRY NECESSARY

Paris, Dec. 17.  
M. Leon Blum and his all-Socialist Cabinet today gave an overwhelming vote of confidence by the National Assembly. The ballot, 580-16, came after the aged premier warned that during its scheduled five weeks of life his government would institute harsh measures to save France's economy. Before the vote, the Communists and MRP accused each other of prolonging the three-week political crisis.

Speaking in a low voice, M. Blum warned that the French people would be asked to bow to severe fiscal measures, to suppress all waste and to use scrupulously all resources.

All Party spokesmen, while pledging support to the Premier, made it clear that they regarded his government as a makeshift one, and the Communist Party Secretary, M. Jacques Duclos, reminded the Assembly that his Party was the strongest in France.—United Press.

**Pledge to Allies**  
The Premier, M. Leon Blum, warned that the French people must make fresh sacrifices to pull France out of her present grave economic crisis.

M. Blum pledged France to work with her Allies in preventing the rebuilding of Germany's war industries. He added that France would continue to demand Ruhr coal and other reparations, as well as economic annexation of the Saar.

"This government's programme is to put an end to public anxiety, to end the economic crisis, to come the passage of measures, prepared by the previous government and intended to establish beyond doubt the equilibrium of the 1947 ordinary budget, and before the end of the year to pass a certain number of necessary laws to rescue, if possible, in the country the first fresh spirit of confidence in the sense in which we understand this term—that is to say, confidence in itself and in its own future."

"Sacrifices will have to be asked of the country," United Press.

**Freder Cheered**  
Associated Press adds that both the Left and Centre benches applauded the Premier as he made the traditional "Ministerial declaration" to introduce his Cabinet, assuring it of a vote of confidence.

In foreign affairs, M. Blum said, his government would "keep up out-

### ANDALUSIAN TRAINS COLLIDE

Madrid, Dec. 17.  
The Andalusian express crashed into a freight train near the village of Cinco Casas to-day and first reports said 14 persons were killed and many seriously injured.—United Press.

## U.S. FAILS IN ATTEMPT TO SECURE ATOM VOTE

Lake Success, Dec. 17.  
The United States failed in an attempt to bring about an immediate vote of approval on its proposals for the international control of atomic energy.

The Soviet delegate Andrei Gromyko charged that the American resolution was not in complete conformity with the historic disarmament decision of the United Nations General Assembly, and asked for more time to study it.

United States delegate Bernard Baruch appeared sorely disappointed at the delay, but finally agreed to the postponement of the Commission's deliberations until Friday.

He told the United Nations Atomic Energy Commission that he had intended to ask a vote on the American proposals on Tuesday. Gromyko indicated that he was chiefly concerned with achieving a unanimous decision on the proposals. He charged that certain aspects of the proposals—including provisions for sanctions—were actually in violation of the United Nations charter. He added that many questions concerning the resolution which had been asked by the Soviet delegation still were unanswered.

**The American Plan**  
In essence, the United States plan called for a "strong and comprehensive international system of control of atomic energy," established by convention among United Nations members. It stipulated that such a treaty would set up international

authority with the power to administer the treaty provisions and to deal with all aspects of atomic problem.

Under the American proposal the treaty would guarantee that the authority of the representatives would be unimpaired by any nation in their entrance and departure for violation inspections.

The American plan would prohibit the manufacture and possession and use of atomic weapons. It would require reports on violations by the authority to the Security Council and Signatory Powers. It would place punishment outside the pale of the veto power. A majority of commission members expressed approval of the American plan. However, the issue raised by Gromyko—that a vote on Tuesday might threaten unanimity later—found some support.

China's Quo Tsi-chi supported the underlying principles of the Baruch proposal, but said he hoped unanimity would be achieved.

Australia and Egypt expressed unqualified approval of the plan.

The Australian delegate, Mr. Hasluck, said the disarmament resolution of the General Assembly apparently covered the fundamental issues involved and that the commission now should be prepared to proceed to the next phase of its mission.—Associated Press.

## BRITISH BREAD RATION CUT PREDICTED

London, Dec. 17.  
A reduction in the British bread ration was predicted to-day following the announcement in Washington last night that the United States would ship only 84,000 tons of grain to this country during January.

In an eleven hour effort to avert a cut in the ration—which at present is nine ounces a day—the Food Minister, Mr. John Strachey, may fly to the United States where he will try to persuade the Department of Agriculture to increase Britain's allocation.

Any decision to reduce the ration at the beginning of the next four-week ration period starting on January 5 will have to be made by Friday when Parliament adjourns for the Christmas recess. Government feels virtually compelled to make the first announcement of such action in Parliament.

A gloomy picture of British wheat supplies was given by Mr. Strachey in the House of Commons on December 6 when he warned that a prolonged coal strike in America would force him to cut the bread ration.

The only prospect of alleviating the situation would be for Britain to buy flour in the United States instead of wheat, the wheat would depend upon the ability of transportation.—United Press.

## REDUCTION OF BCOF PLANNED

Melbourne, Dec. 17.  
The British Government is considering reducing its army in Japan because of commitments elsewhere, a spokesman of the British Commonwealth Occupation Forces stated in Melbourne to-day.

The spokesman, who was replying to a statement made by an American magazine that Britain proposed to withdraw from the occupation of Japan, said this was not true, but Britain was considering reducing her forces there in view of her commitments all over the world.

Because of the stability achieved in Japan, he said, Britain was considering a reduction of the United Kingdom army there, but not of the Navy and not of the Royal Air Force. Possible reductions are being discussed with Australia, New Zealand and India, the spokesman said. The United States Government and Gen. MacArthur had been informed, he added.—Reuter.

## Royal Romance Rumours Gain Strength

London, Dec. 17.  
Buckingham Palace denies that Prince of Edinburgh and Prince Philip of Greece are unofficially engaged. They were noticeably weaker and West End dressmakers said they deduced that the Royal romance was approaching the announcement stage from discreet inquiries for costumes from the nobility.—United Press.

## Finland Still Paying Debts

Washington, Dec. 17.  
Finland kept its reputation as the only country never to default on World War I loans by making her annual payment of \$259,470 to the Treasury Department.

Finland has now paid \$7,000,000 against her debt, but still owes \$8,000,000. France, Britain and all others defaulted.—United Press.

## ANTI-FRANCO RESOLUTION DISREGARDED

New York, Dec. 17.  
Disregarding the UN anti-Franco resolution requesting the withdrawal of chiefs of missions from Madrid, the new Argentine Ambassador to Spain, Pedro Radio, was reported in Press dispatches to-day to be preparing to leave Buenos Aires on December 22 for Madrid.

The reports said Radio's orders to join his post ante-dated the UN action.

London dispatches report that Bernard, Cardinal Griffin, Roman Catholic Archbishop of Westminster, charged inconsistencies in the UN "interference in Spain's internal affairs."

Addressing the Catholic Council for Polish Welfare, the Cardinal said: "We were told we must not interfere with the internal politics of Spain. Yet we are prepared to interfere with the internal politics of Spain. So I ask: Where are our principles?"—United Press.

## PLANES HELP SEARCH FOR SOVIET SHIP

Tokyo, Dec. 17.  
The Pacific Air Command Headquarters announced to-day that Fifth Air Force air-sea rescue planes have begun a search of the Japan Sea for the Second lost Soviet ship, a 2,000-ton ore vessel believed to have been driven in a storm toward the coast of Hokkaido.

Four days ago the Fifth Air Force started searching for a Soviet 800-ton vessel reported long overdue on a voyage from Vladivostok to Genzan, Korea.

The ore ship for which the search began to-day is believed to have been disabled for a week. It was en route from Vladivostok to Shikoku, North Hokkaido. Russian officials in Japan who asked United States aid, said Soviet searchers, presumably aircraft, had scanned 150 miles of ocean from Port Terme.—Associated Press.

## No Evidence Of Captive Airmen In Lolo Country

Shanghai, Dec. 17.  
An American search team, after a three-month search in the land of the aboriginal Lolos, returned to Shanghai to-day. Its spokesman told the United Press that it "now seems unlikely" that any American fliers are held as slaves by Lolos after surviving wartime plane crashes.

The team leader, who was not permitted to disclose his name, said they visited the scene of a crash whence emanated "rumours of enslaved Americans, but 'nobody I talked to knew anything about anyone being alive.'"

He pointed out that he learned, after other known crashes, that the Lolo were eager to guide Americans to the nearest Chinese village and collect the rewards offered by the Chinese authorities.

However, he stressed that only 25 percent of Lolo country was covered by the searchers so far, and that now evidence may result from searches by another team still in Lolo territory.—United Press.

## GEN CHENNAULT DIVORCED

Saint Pierre, Louisiana, Dec. 17.  
Maj.-Gen. Chennault, former commander of the 14th U.S. Air Force in China has been divorced.

Mrs. Chennault was awarded one half of their community property. She declined to comment on the case. They have eight children, five of whom served in the war.—Associated Press.

## AMERICAN PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES

Washington, Dec. 17.  
The former Governor of Minnesota, Mr. Harold Stassen, announced to-day that he intended to seek 1948 Republican Presidential nomination on a platform of "true liberalism."

The wartime Navy captain listed a four-point platform:

1. No big strikes and high continuous production;
2. Raising the pay of white-collar workers;
3. Opposition to extreme measures threatening the fundamental rights of labour;
4. Exercise consumer resistance against high prices.—United Press.

**Vandenberg Not Candidate**  
Washington, Dec. 17.

Senator Arthur Vandenberg to-day said he was not a candidate for the Republican nomination for President and expected no campaign on his behalf in 1948.—United Press.

## TURKEY REINFORCES FRONTIER

Salonica, Dec. 17.  
Turkey has reinforced her frontier posts along the whole length of the Greek-Turkey border in Thrace after guerilla activities in that area.

Greek Air Force Spitfires to-day scattered thousands of leaflets in the mountain areas where guerillas are believed to have hiding places, promising them amnesty if they surrender before the end of the year. Guerilla activities have slowed down recently, though minor incidents have been reported in the past 48 hours.—Reuter.

## Japanese Demonstrate In Tokyo

Tokyo, Dec. 17.  
Thousands of Japanese workers demonstrated in Tokyo to-day against what they termed the "high handed methods of the Japanese Cabinet, led by Shigenori Yoshida. They unloaded demonstrators from all parts of the capital to join the crowds which had arrived on foot in a demonstration outside the Imperial Palace and waving flags. The demonstration—the biggest in Tokyo since the war ended—was due to last all day. The workers planned to march in two columns to the Prime Minister's house and the Diet to present their demands, which call for an improvement in the allocation of rice quotas, the establishment of minimum wages and adoption of an industrial reconstruction programme.—Reuter.

## Naples Protests Against Food Conditions

Rome, Dec. 17.  
Hundreds of thousands of workers in Naples and the province began a general strike to protest against food conditions as the Cabinet met in Rome to consider reduction of the national bread ration from 250 to 200 grams a day, and other measures to meet the new winter food crisis.

Thousands of Neapolitans demonstrated against high prices and bad distribution of food yesterday preparatory to the general strike.—United Press.

## ANOTHER EARTHQUAKE IN FORMOSA

Tainan, Dec. 17.  
Another earthquake of minor intensity shook Tainan shortly after midnight last night and continued for about 10 minutes. The centre of the tremor appeared to be near the scene of the previous quake.—Central News.

## Curtain Of Secrecy Over Eastern Germany Is Lifted Partially

Berlin, Dec. 17.  
The Russian occupation authorities announced to-day that the "most important" German war plants in the Soviet zone have been liquidated. The authorities denied they have been dismantling and carting away to Russia the rest of Eastern Germany's industrial machinery.

Partially lifting the curtain of secrecy surrounding industrial output in their occupation zone, the Soviets devoted nearly half a page in the official Soviet Army organ, Tsegliche Rundschau, to statistical comparisons of production levels fixed by the Allied Control Council and actual output.

In an apparent effort to silence reports of wholesale dismantling, the Soviets admitted that they were turning out three and one half times as much heavy machinery as the amount agreed on by the Four Powers in settling the future of German economy.

The Russians announced they were producing annually 200.7 million Reichsmarks worth of heavy machinery compared with the Control Council figure of 74.7 million.

There was no explanation for the Russian admission that Four Power level of industry agreement was being violated except that the Soviet administration decided to blast back at critics who have charged the Russians with turning Eastern Germany into an industrial desert.

The report did not disclose what the Russians were doing with the finished goods, but recently they have made no secret of the fact that they have been exiling technicians from current German industrial output.

Information on what war plants and how many had been dismantled was not given.—United Press.

## ANTI-RUSSIAN INTRIGUE ALLEGED

London, Dec. 17.  
The Parliamentary Labour Party's External Affairs Committee at a secret meeting last night unanimously adopted a report accusing unnamed British diplomats in Europe of "varying degrees of anti-Russian intrigue and propaganda" and urging sweeping reforms to make the Foreign Office more representative of the Labour Government, a well-informed source said to-day.

National leadership of the Labour Party betrayed concern over the growing intra-Party revolt over the government's "get tough with Russia" foreign policy by taking the first step to prevent it from spreading further among rank and file Party members.—United Press.

## VC FOR GALLANTRY AT SINGAPORE

London, Dec. 17.  
The Victoria Cross has been posthumously awarded to T/Lieutenant Thomas Wilkinson, RNR, for valour at Singapore in February 1942 when he was in command of a patrol vessel, HMS Li Wo.

To-night's announcement of the award says it is awarded not only for self-sacrifice, but in honour also, of all who fought and died with him.—Reuter.

## KOREAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY WILL ATTEND INTERIM ASSEMBLY

Seoul, Dec. 17.  
Korean Democratic Party leaders to-day told Lt.-Gen. John Hodge, commander of the U.S. forces in Korea, that they will attend the next session of the Interim Legislative Assembly which they previously boycotted. The 90-man Assembly opened last week with only half the members present.

The decision of the Democratic Party means that about two-thirds of the delegates will now attend, since the Party was allowed 23 members.

Informed opinion says that Democratic Party members will probably "struggle" into the Assembly at its meeting on Friday to save face.

The Party previously presented General Hodge with an ultimatum announcing they would boycott the Assembly unless he explained in greater detail why he had avoided the Assembly elections in Seoul and Kangwondo.

U.S. Army officials were "highly pleased" to-day at the decision of the Party to attend as it promised to give the Assembly "better balance." Since its inauguration last Thursday the Assembly met only informally to organize the committees.

According to a highly placed official the Army hopes the Assembly will hasten to draw up standardized election laws for South Korea by mid-January so the new Assembly may be elected by national suffrage.—United Press.

## STOP PRESS

### SYDNEY TEST SCORES

Sydney, Dec. 18.  
Don Bradman made a long inspection of the wicket this morning before sending in McCool and Tallon, the Queenslanders, to continue Australia's innings in the second test. McCool was caught by Hammond off Smith when he had scored 12.

Scores: Tallon, not out 12; McCool, c Hammond, b Smith 12; Freer not out 1; Total 500 for seven wickets.—United Press.

Tallon, caught and bowled Wright 30; Freer 12; total 623 for 8. The score is a ground record.—United Press.

Australia has declared at 550 for eight wickets.—United Press.

England, 34 for no wickets.—Reuter.



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**A THOUSAND AND ONE NIGHTS**  
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The picture that makes you young!  
Hear the Song Hini!

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Directed by **HARRY JAMES**

ALSO LATEST GAUMONT BRITISH NEWS

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**ALOMA OF THE SOUTH SEAS**  
A BEAUTIFUL LOVE PRIZE OF THE ISLANDS!

Starring **DOROTHY LAMOUR** and **JOHN HALL**  
Directed by **ALFRED SANTILL**

**SUBMARINE RAIDER**  
Nipping Nippon's Navy On The Eve Of Pearl Harbor!

Starring **JOHN HOWARD** and **MARGUERITE CHAPMAN**  
Directed by **WILLIAM W. WELLS**



An 8 ft. 6 in. bronze statue of Nelson, in the uniform which he was wearing at the time of his death at Trafalgar, is to be erected in Portsmouth, probably in the centre of the proposed new Cathedral Green. Sculptor, F. Brook Hitch, FRGS, is seen working on the model at his London studio.

## THE WAY TO DEAL WITH PALESTINE

by "CRITIC"

BRITAIN is in Palestine to carry out the terms of a mandate which exists in black and white in the form of a preamble and 28 numbered articles.

It is perfectly clear that in our attempt to give effect to this document we do not satisfy the Americans and fail (for different and opposite reasons) to win the approval of the Russians. We do not please the Arabs and we antagonise the Zionists. Nor, if truth be told, do we find much ground for self-congratulation in the business.

### THE MANDATE

THE common sense of the situation strongly supports the view that Britain should hand back the mandate to the United Nations as heir-at-law of the defunct League of Nations, so that some wiser, or stronger, or harsher power may have the chance to improve upon our efforts.

Some people, however, hesitate to espouse a policy so severe in its logic. Yet even to such waverers it is obvious that the present position cannot continue and that, by one method or another, we must get to better terms with the problem. Fortunately, the mandate itself affords a simple approach to the issue.

### PATH OF DUTY

WHAT is at dispute between Britain and her critics? Essentially, it is the interpretation of the mandate. It is alleged that Britain is not carrying out her plain duty.

Propaganda in the United States, speeches to the Trusteeship Committee of the United Nations, and bomb outrages in Palestine—all are designed to make the path of duty plainer to our eyes. Well, what is our duty under the mandate?

### HOME FOR JEWS

THE preamble states that the mandatory power should be responsible for establishing in Palestine "a national home for the Jewish people, it being clearly understood that nothing should be done which might prejudice the civil and religious rights of existing non-Jewish communities in Palestine."

In our endeavours to give concrete meaning to this passage we have given offence in turn to Arabs and Jews. Our troops and officers have been shot at by both. It may be that, lacking the wisdom of those who look upon the problem from afar, we have failed to interpret the mandate accurately. We should seek enlightenment.

In post-war conditions, that means we ought to address three questions to a competent authority:

(1) Does the stated purpose of the mandate compel us to convert Palestine into a Jewish State, as the extreme Zionists appear to wish? Or does it, in fact, forbid us to do so?

(2) Does it mean that, when atrocious sufferings are inflicted on European Jewry by their enemies, and ours, we are bound to admit 100,000 survivors of the massacre to Palestine, irrespective of the feelings

of the existing non-Jewish communities? Or would this also be a breach of the mandate?

(3) Are we legally bound to confer immediate self-government upon Palestine when the Arabs demand it, or they do, even if the Zionists oppose it, as they do?

Until there is an unequivocal pronouncement on these questions, it is not possible justly to criticise British policy in Palestine, for it is not possible to show wherein we are in error.

But from whom can such a pronouncement emanate?

### THE ANSWER

ARTICLE 26 of the mandate provides the answer: any dispute relating to the interpretation or the application of any provision of the mandate shall be submitted to the Permanent Court of International Justice.

That is clear enough. But if it is urged that the Court is not a suitable body for determining issues of political rather than judicial interpretation, then we may have recourse to the Trusteeship Committee of the United Nations. We can present the three questions to them.

And, when their ruling has been given, it will be for Britain to determine whether she can, with a clear conscience and a confidence in her own power, operate the mandate on the terms laid down.

If she can, well and good. If she cannot, her proper course will be plainly defined.

## For ever and ever HOLLYWOOD

AT the gates of most of the great studios there hangs nowadays an old bit of tarpaulin innocent as a housewife's apron and likewise torn.

The tear's the thing. Behind the tear there lurks a camera and behind the camera there lurks a man. It is his job to photograph for legal evidence the curious activities of the studio strikers and picketers. The judges won't take still photographs; they have to move.

Now the picketers know all about this. When they feel about to be up to something they flash pocket mirrors at the tear in the tarpaulin to over-expose the film. The studios retaliate by hanging more tarpaulin, rigging up more cameras. The battle grows.

### Not clean

IT is not what you would call a clean fight. Some of the picketers hang lengths of ship's chain down inside their trousers so that when they stick out a leg they can easily break the shin of the fellow trying to cross their line.

They drive around at night tossing little hand-made bombs in through the windows of homes of carpenters and other studio workmen who are blacklegging.

Perhaps this little duel in the sun is not important when you consider the nation-wide struggle that is coming over coal, but I find it a clear finger signpost. It explains much.

The American nation, fresh from an orgy of self-expression in the Republican landslide of November, is now starting out on a kind of twentieth-century witch hunt.

### The witches

THE trade unions are the witches. Fear of Russia, distrust of Britain have been forgotten in this new hate. Industrialists and taxi-drivers, movie moguls and bartenders all say the same thing to me—"We've got to put the working man back to work and stop this gangster business."

And it was, I'm sure, the little men, the small shopkeepers, and the vast pressure groups or the industrial public relations wizards who voted the Republicans in.

It will be interesting to see how far this hate wave goes up the beach.

Americans to-day yell "Red" much as the Nazis yelled "Jew," and they have now reached a stage of thought where any sentiment left of centre is called "un-American."

Only inside the studios themselves is there calm. Metro is called the "Twenty-first Century-Fox like a great car factory, Paramount, possibly due to the past influence of certain characters called Crosby and Hope, is one long guffaw.

YOU may be sure I have already made my pilgrimage to the place where "Forever Amber" is going through a slow and dignified process of birth. I found that the film has now been in production for so long that they call it "Forever and Ever Amber."

I spent a whole afternoon on the set where the two great stars of today, Cornel Wilde and Linda Darnell, were playing a scene. Miss Darnell had to say to Mr Wilde: "Oh, Bruce, you don't think the King will really hang you, will he?"

Wilde: "I doubt it, my dear, but he seems to set a great store by our red-headed friend."

Darnell: "I hate her. She is the cause of all this trouble."

After four hours they still hadn't got it right which makes me think that the official estimate of one year's shooting to be completed in February is a modesty.

But do not think there is anything lachrymose about this royal progress. Miss Darnell, who in her blonde hair dye looks like a lemon meringue pie and quite as edible, was working with a head cold, which has turned to mastoid trouble.

## A further report from PAUL HOLT

She was having hourly doses of penicillin and saying: "Oh, Bruce, you don't think the King will really hang you?" once every half hour.

She drank tea, as did most of the people on the set, and seemed content.

Cornel Wilde, a vast young man with a small and urgent face, is only interested at the moment in Lord Byron. His researches into the life of the poet are endless, and he is determined to sell the studios his own Byron version for himself to play in. I think he will make it.

It may seem odd to you that I should call Miss Darnell and Mr Wilde two great stars of to-day. But it is true. Yesterday's stars are not remembered.

David Selznick, who made "Gone With The Wind," is still trying to persuade Garbo to appear with Gregory Peck and Ann Todd in the new Hitchcock picture, "The Paradine Case."

Selznick was talking to the current young male of the town, Guy Madison. "How'd you like to act with Garbo?" he said to the new arrival to fame.

"Garbo? I beg your pardon, I never heard of her," answered the youth quite honestly.

### On a play

OF course, one of my first duties on reaching Hollywood was to seek out Ben Hecht, the man who wrote the anti-British play about Palestine, "A Flag is Born."

Belle me, it is true Mr Hecht wishes to bring the play to London. He has written to Winston Churchill asking for his blessing, which he confidently expects to receive shortly.

"I reckon the play would need about 20 per cent. rewriting, which I should be very happy to do." There I feel is the clue to this amazing continent. It is populated by single-minded people who will readily use any stick to hand to beat a dog with.

Mr Hecht believes passionately that to-day presents a better opportunity than ever before in history to make a nation out of the Jews. To excite America to that idea he will attack Britain. In Britain he will attack somebody else.

He said: "It was a shame you British had to get in the way." He said also later: "The only people who attack me here are my own people, the Jews. If only an Englishman would attack me..."

I said quite firmly that I had written that there was English blood on his hands. "It was a gallant piece and I thank you for it," he said mournfully.

### On dreamers

I RODE out to Palm Springs, where the sun shines all the year round.

Through the endless orange groves and mammoth vineyards, the shrubs and driers and motor hotels, through James M. Cain country, all the desert began, and then the snow-capped San Bernardino Rockies fringed a shrill blue sky, and all nature mounted massive, and the shadows became black as a tiger's yawn, and the skyline with one thrust of its shoulder could throw men away.

Palm Springs is a desert settlement, a trading post. It looks like Charleston in the afternoon except for those great 11,000 ft. mountains.

Here in secret palaces the millionaires and film folk toast their ample bodies, and dream the day away beside a blue swimming pool.

Sharp at 3.30 the sun is down behind the jagged mountain, and then they all scurry indoors to the gin rummy and Bridge tables. It is too far to climb up that mountain, so next year they plan a \$4,000,000 project to bring the snow down to the millionaires for them to ski.

While I was dreaming by a pool, stripped and sleepy, a call came through from London. It was for Miss Ann Todd, who was then busy swimming.

She couldn't hear a word and so filled in the time screaming back to London that the sun was shining, the water was warm and the sky was blue.

Suddenly the 'phone came clear and she heard a voice saying crossly: "It is cold and foggy here"—at which the 'phone went suddenly dead.

### On a robuko

DINING with Phyllis Calvert I heard an old Hollywood man say sharply to her: "Stop it. You're looking thoughtful. For heaven's sake look gay."

Looking around I saw such folk as Cary Grant and Veronica Lake glancing curiously at the lady. She at once brightened up while I apologised passionately. I had been telling her a story.

## According To Culbertson

(Copyright, 1946, by Ely Culbertson)

North-South missed a laydown game in to-day's deal because South, in the one bid he was able to make, gave a very bad description of his holdings.

East dealer.

Both sides vulnerable.

**NORTH**  
♠ J9543  
♥ K1072  
♦ 63  
♣ Q7

**WEST**  
♠ Q82  
♥ J6543  
♦ J2  
♣ 883

**EAST**  
♠ 10  
♥ AQ98  
♦ AK10754  
♣ 62

**SOUTH**  
♠ AK76  
♥ —  
♦ Q98  
♣ AKJ1054

The bidding:

East 1st round South 2nd round West 3rd round North 4th round

1st round South 2nd round West 3rd round North 4th round

1st round South 2nd round West 3rd round North 4th round

1st round South 2nd round West 3rd round North 4th round

1st round South 2nd round West 3rd round North 4th round

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1st round South 2nd round West 3rd round North 4th round

1st round South 2nd round West 3rd round North 4th round

It did not convey the right sort of message to North. A bid of this sort carries a well defined request that partner do one of four things: (1) Bid three no trump if he can stop the suit bid by the enemy and has a couple of other scattered honours. Obviously, North could not stop the diamonds, hence this bid was out. (2) Raise the overall. For this, a fit and a few potential tricks are required, especially when the suit is a minor and five-odd are needed for game. North had a satisfactory fit for clubs, with queen-small, but the outside tricks were lacking. (3) Bid a good major suit—one that can stand largely on its own feet. North had no such suit (4) Lacking the ability to do any of the first three, pass! Don't stretch in order to name a suit that needs extraordinary support. If, for example, North responded with three spades, South would be justified in raising to four spades with king-small, expecting North to have a far more solid spade suit.

Thus, South's choice of bids was more of a warning against spades and hearts than an invitation, and North was correct in passing. The fault lay in the fact that South neglected to double one diamond, in the very hope that North could respond in spades.

## Crossword Puzzle

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

ACROSS

1—Wasp  
4—Mouth  
9—Foot  
12—Part of "to be"  
13—Pained victim  
14—maker  
16—One's years  
17—Porter  
18—Fishes  
19—Do away!  
21—Dumb  
22—Robbing  
26—Partly cooked  
27—Hostess  
28—Conjunction  
29—Monkey

DOWN

2—Buffalo  
3—King (pr.)  
5—Trench double  
6—Industrious  
7—Rescues  
8—Swift  
10—Tidy terror  
11—Cautious  
15—Calms  
16—Put up for sale  
18—Civil's name  
19—Eminent types  
20—Fuss  
23—Wanderer  
24—Negative  
25—Level of exchange  
30—Duties totally  
31—Female sheep

32—Drops  
33—Altogether  
34—Unpleasant  
35—Lies up  
36—Yellow bug  
37—Dainty fabric  
38—Overcast, empty

39—Drops  
40—Unpleasant  
41—Lies up  
42—Yellow bug  
43—Dainty fabric  
44—Overcast, empty

45—Drops  
46—Unpleasant  
47—Lies up  
48—Yellow bug  
49—Dainty fabric  
50—Overcast, empty

51—Drops  
52—Unpleasant  
53—Lies up  
54—Yellow bug  
55—Dainty fabric  
56—Overcast, empty

57—Drops  
58—Unpleasant  
59—Lies up  
60—Yellow bug  
61—Dainty fabric  
62—Overcast, empty

63—Drops  
64—Unpleasant  
65—Lies up  
66—Yellow bug  
67—Dainty fabric  
68—Overcast, empty

69—Drops  
70—Unpleasant  
71—Lies up  
72—Yellow bug  
73—Dainty fabric  
74—Overcast, empty

75—Drops  
76—Unpleasant  
77—Lies up  
78—Yellow bug  
79—Dainty fabric  
80—Overcast, empty

81—Drops  
82—Unpleasant  
83—Lies up  
84—Yellow bug  
85—Dainty fabric  
86—Overcast, empty

87—Drops  
88—Unpleasant  
89—Lies up  
90—Yellow bug  
91—Dainty fabric  
92—Overcast, empty

93—Drops  
94—Unpleasant  
95—Lies up  
96—Yellow bug  
97—Dainty fabric  
98—Overcast, empty

99—Drops  
100—Unpleasant  
101—Lies up  
102—Yellow bug  
103—Dainty fabric  
104—Overcast, empty

105—Drops  
106—Unpleasant  
107—Lies up  
108—Yellow bug  
109—Dainty fabric  
110—Overcast, empty

111—Drops  
112—Unpleasant  
113—Lies up  
114—Yellow bug  
115—Dainty fabric  
116—Overcast, empty

117—Drops  
118—Unpleasant  
119—Lies up  
120—Yellow bug  
121—Dainty fabric  
122—Overcast, empty

123—Drops  
124—Unpleasant  
125—Lies up  
126—Yellow bug  
127—Dainty fabric  
128—Overcast, empty

129—Drops  
130—Unpleasant  
131—Lies up  
132—Yellow bug  
133—Dainty fabric  
134—Overcast, empty

135—Drops  
136—Unpleasant  
137—Lies up  
138—Yellow bug  
139—Dainty fabric  
140—Overcast, empty

141—Drops  
142—Unpleasant  
143—Lies up  
144—Yellow bug  
145—Dainty fabric  
146—Overcast, empty

147—Drops  
148—Unpleasant  
149—Lies up  
150—Yellow bug  
151—Dainty fabric  
152—Overcast, empty

153—Drops  
154—Unpleasant  
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157—Dainty fabric  
158—Overcast, empty

159—Drops  
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163—Dainty fabric  
164—Overcast, empty

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169—Dainty fabric  
170—Overcast, empty

171—Drops  
172—Unpleasant  
173—Lies up  
174—Yellow bug  
175—Dainty fabric  
176—Overcast, empty

177—Drops  
178—Unpleasant  
179—Lies up  
180—Yellow bug  
181—Dainty fabric  
182—Overcast, empty

183—Drops  
184—Unpleasant  
185—Lies up  
186—Yellow bug  
187—Dainty fabric  
188—Overcast, empty

189—Drops  
190—Unpleasant  
191—Lies up  
192—Yellow bug  
193—Dainty fabric  
194—Overcast, empty

195—Drops  
196—Unpleasant  
197—Lies up  
198—Yellow bug  
199—Dainty fabric  
200—Overcast, empty

### NANCY

Sign of Disappointment

I WANT A VANILLA SODA AND A PEACH SODA

YES, MAM

MMM--- THEY WERE VERY GOOD

30 CENTS, PLEASE

HEY!... HOW ABOUT YOUR SIGN OUT FRONT?

FREE SAMPLES TODAY

THAT SIGN IS FOR THE SHOP NEXT DOOR

By Ernie Bushmiller



## Canadians Get Enough Meat But Find Other Foods Hard To Obtain

Canadians are getting a relatively plentiful supply of meat at ceiling prices, but many foods and household items are scarce and some are even more difficult to get than in the United States.

In essential items Canadians are probably generally better off than their American neighbours at the moment. The reasons are not easy to discover, but in the case of foods produced at home, it can be ascribed to the fact that Canada with her vast areas of farmlands can produce many times her capacity to consume.

The Canadian Government is proud of the huge amounts of food being sent to Europe. To do this the rationing system is maintained at home, but the amounts allotted are comfortable and, in contrast to what has happened so often in the United States, the Canadian housewife can usually find the food to spend her coupons on.

Meat, sugar and butter are all rationed, but the housewife can nearly always buy her quota. Canada's relative plenty was spotlighted recently when meat-hungry Detroiters started pouring across the border to Windsor to get a good meal. The Canadian Government also found it necessary to reimpose its old poultry embargo to halt the heavy flow of fowl across the line into the United States.

### Conditions Of Montreal

Conditions in Montreal, Canada's largest city, with a population of something over 1,000,000, are characteristic of the entire country.

This is the situation for the Montreal housewife (the rationing system is uniform throughout the country).—Meat—ration, varied according to cut, approximately two pounds per person per week. Beef and veal are plentiful; ham, bacon and pork are harder to get but are usually obtainable about twice a week. Ceiling prices in cents—round steak, 35 to 45; porterhouse, 45-50; sirloin, 44-46; rolled rib roast, 39-43; tenderloin, 70-75; side bacon, 54; leg spring lamb, 45-51; loin lamb, 39-45; loin roast pork 43; pork chops, 34; ham, 48;

## Industrial Mobilisation Blueprint

The U.S. Army's blueprint for industrial mobilisation in the event of another war includes the preparation of mines and rock quarries for quick conversion into use as factories, according to the Armoured Cavalry Journal, unofficial but well-informed publication of Army activities, reports United Press.

Other phases of the Army's industrial mobilisation programme are:

Stockpiles of over US\$2,000,000 worth of scarce materials, the source of which for the most part are outside the United States; standardisation of purchases by all branches of the armed services; development of plans to control transportation, manpower, electrical energy and other services; decentralisation of industry so that a few accurate bomb hits would not knock out too many plants.

The Army and Navy Munitions Board has been given the responsibility of developing the industrial mobilisation programme. The Board found in a recent survey that caves do not make the best underground factory sites due to excessive moisture and different levels, but that mines and quarries were much more adaptable.

### SIDE GLANCES

By Galbraith



TOP: ILLUSTRATION BY J. H. B. FOR THE HONGKONG TELEGRAPH. BOTTOM: ILLUSTRATION BY J. H. B. FOR THE HONGKONG TELEGRAPH.

"Marge met two wonderful boys during the summer, but she decided which is more important—a reconverted jeep or a job in the bank!"

## Causes Of Death Classification To Be Revised

In connection with the revision in 1948 of the International List of Causes of Death, the Minister of Health, Mr. Aneurin Bevan, has appointed a Medical Advisory Committee "to consider from the medical point of view and to advise upon the alterations to be suggested by the Government in the United Kingdom at the forthcoming revision of the International List of Causes of Death."

Sir Ernest Rock-Corling, F.R.C.S., F.R.C.P., Dean of Westminster Hospital Medical School is chairman of the Committee.

Recognition of the importance to medical research of causes of death inspired the formulation of the present classification, which was first adopted by the International Institute of Statistics in 1893 and which has been revised on five occasions by an international conference convened decennially since 1900 by the French Government.

The main achievements of the conference have been to revise the terminology of the International List of Causes of Death in accordance with scientific developments, and to initiate the Agreement relating to Statistics of Causes of Death signed in 1931 on behalf of over 20 Governments, which undertook to compile and publish their statistics according to the agreed International List.

Provision has now been made for the next revision of the International List of Causes of Death and the establishment of an international committee of diseases to be carried out under the auspices of the World Health Organisation.

## Food & Textiles From Seaweed

A new source of fireproof fabrics is opened up by the recent investigations of the Scottish Seaweed Research Association.

It has been found that alginic acid, a remarkable versatility as a raw material and can be used for almost as many purposes as cellulose. For instance, in the making of transparent paper, lightweight fabrics, textile size and soluble ligatures for surgery. It can also be used in the lining of beer and as an ingredient of soap, ice-cream, custard powder and many other foods.

The main advantage of alginic acid fabrics is that they are non-inflammable. Another advantage is that when alginic acid filament is combined with woolen thread and woven, it is possible to dissolve the acid which leaves a woolen fabric weighing only 1½ ounces per square yard. The lightest possible with untreated wool weighs 5½ ounces per square yard.

## RADAR USED TO PLOT VESSEL IN DISTRESS

The value of radar as a Coast Guard aid to vessels in distress was illustrated recently off the east coast of Scotland when the British steamer St. Michaels grounded during middle watch on the Flamborough Head.

Visibility at the time was only 200 yards and the St. Michaels began sending out distress signals. A Humber picked them up but the only position given was "North of Flamborough Head" and, for this reason, considerable difficulty was experienced in locating the ship.

Consequently a radar station on a coast was asked for assistance immediately on watch. Within an hour the station had obtained a fix of the vessel and had passed the information to district headquarters. Additional plots of the lifeboat reaching for the grounded ship were received in relation to her "array."

## Teleprinter Link For Air Forces

The opening of a new radio teleprinter circuit between the Royal Air Force and the Royal Canadian Air Force is one of the first steps in a plan to bring all the air forces of the British Commonwealth into direct teleprinter communication with each other and with the R.A.F.

A similar link across the Pacific is being established by a circuit from Vancouver to Australia. Extension of existing facilities in India towards Australia will mean an unbroken light round the world.

## Reval Of Pre-War Music Festival

An annual event in Britain before World War II, the Music Festival of the British Legion Women's Section is to be launched again on February 20, 1947, next, at Townley Hall, Theatroland.

A competition will be a new feature of the Festival, and one part of the section will include a folk song for any nation.

## LEGENDS OF CANADIAN WILDERNESS

When James Watts, a 33-year-old teacher, his 24-year-old wife, Beatrice, and her brother, Edward Ross, 18, recently returned from the unmapped wilderness of Nahanni country of Northern Canada, long overdue on a summer hunting and prospecting trip, they brought back a new "legend" to explain previous legends of the Indian region.

In country where the thermometer often reads 72 degrees below zero Fahrenheit, there is also a sheltered valley with semi-tropical temperatures, warmed by hot springs and geysers, they said. It was in such surroundings that huge prehistoric monsters roamed and huge bearded white men raided villages and ate human flesh, according to legends told by trappers and priests who entered Northern Canada 100 to 150 years ago.

Watts did not altogether discount the old Indian stories about the monsters. He said the Indians had drawn pictures of the animals on deer skins "which are perfect likenesses of prehistoric mastodons."

He expressed the belief that the Indians told the stories to keep white men out of the territory, but said it is entirely possible that mastodons frozen in the glaciers or fossils from prehistoric animals were the inspiration of their sketches.—Associated Press.

## China's Prospects Against Japan's In Silk Exports

American silk experts predict that within five years the Japanese silk industry will be producing 300,000 bales yearly for export and occupying again a major position in Japan's international trade, says Associated Press.

With official approval, aimed to assist in the recovery of Japanese industry generally, the American silk trade is eager to obtain increased amounts of Japanese silk. Experts estimate that the United States market is able to absorb 100,000 bales of raw fibres, but feel that present war-inflated prices, reaching US\$15 to \$16 per pound will decline soon to the vicinity of pre-war levels of approximately \$3.50 per pound.

Silk traders say that Japanese producers will soon experience increasing competition from the Chinese, who are also attempting to regain their long-lost eminent position in the world silk trade.

Statistics show that Japan produced 80 per cent of the world's pre-war silk, with China exporting 15 per cent of the world demand, and Italy growing the remaining five per cent.

### China's Future

Americans believe that under stimulus, the government-owned China Silk Corporation could also produce 300,000 bales for export within five years, and would thereby be able to supply one-half of the anticipated 600,000 bale world demand.

People who have recently studied China's silk industry say that the long producing season in South China, plus improved cocoons, will place China alongside Japan as a major silk producer. This, they add, will occur despite the fact that Japanese military destroyed 75 per cent of China's silk industry.

## TRADE AS BASIS OF PEACE

"Trade between nations is the only possible basis of a prosperous and free world." Speaking at a meeting of the United Nations Association in London recently, Mr. Herbert Morrison, Britain's Lord President of the Council, developed this theme.

Every seeker after peace, he said, was glad that the United States had welcomed a special chapter in their proposals for consideration at an international conference on trade and employment, thus recognising that the maintenance of full employment was an obligation that each country owes to the rest of the world.

Britain's own full employment policy, said Mr. Morrison, "is one of the biggest contributions a country can make to sound and prosperous world trade, and therefore to world peace."

## London Art Shows In 1947

A display of old Spanish paintings is to be exhibited at the National Gallery in February, 1947.

Following this will be an exhibition illustrating the cleaning of valuable works of art, including a number of pictures from the Gallery which have undergone the process during the last 10 years.

Some of the exhibits will be pictures which have been partially cleaned so as to give a "before" and "after" effect.

## Transatlantic Radio Traffic Sets Record

Some interesting figures have been issued by the International Marine Radio Company Ltd. of Liverpool, on the amount of radio traffic dealt with on the maiden voyage of Britain's liner Queen Elizabeth by the radio telephone and telegraph equipment forming part of the complete radio station installed and operated by them on this great ship.

During the round voyage to New York and back to Southampton, a total of 131,000 words, comprising passenger and press messages, were handled by radio telegraph through stations on both sides of the Atlantic—often to East and West simultaneously—by manually operated and by high speed automatic transmitters, using Morse speeds of up to 100 words per minute.

An all-time record for the highest volume of private radio telegraph traffic exchanged by any one ship with Britain was established on the outward voyage, lasting less than five days, when 66,300 words were passed through British Post Office shore radio stations. This exceeded the previous record of 48,004 words held by the Queen Mary.

At the same time, 607 radio telephone calls were put through to and from telephone subscribers in various countries, including South Africa and Australia; also 32 separate broadcasts were transmitted to broadcasting systems throughout the world.

In addition to the above figures, there was the large number of words transmitted and received in normal navigational messages and the "copy" for the daily newspapers published on board.

## Careers In New RAF Branch

A new RAF branch, the Secretarial Branch, will be established on January 1, for administrative duties for which a flying or technical background is not essential.

It will open up further opportunities for permanent commissions for serving airmen, to young men under 19 who succeed in the Common services Entrance Examination and to RAF administrative apprentices. A special wing of the RAF College will be set up to train the latter two types of entrants to permanent commissions in this branch.

Short service commissions will also be available to serving airmen who will be considered for permanent commissions while serving on short service.

A wide variety of posts will be open to secretarial officers, including air rank administrative appointments and command of certain non-operational units. About one-third of the intelligence posts will be filled by Secretarial officers who will also undertake adjutant duties, and administrative and record office posts.

The new Branch will take over all the duties of the present Accountant Branch, many administrative posts formerly filled by General Duties branch officers, and many responsibilities of the administrative and Special Duties Branch, which is not to be retained as a separate branch.

## Plastics To Figure In Industries Fair

British manufacturers of plastics will be represented at the 1947 British Industries Fair in much greater numbers than in former years. Moulding powders and presses used in the production of plastic goods, also a varied display of finished articles, will be exhibited.

This section is being organised in co-operation with the British Plastics Federation and will afford buyers opportunity of assessing the progress made in this industry.

## 100-Metre European Swimming Record

Toulouse, Dec. 16. The French world champion swimmer, Alex Jany, placed the "Dauphins de Toulouse" swimming team into a new European record on Sunday when the team covered the 100-metre four-man relay course in 3 minutes 49.4 secs, beating the previous European record of 4 mins. 9.5 secs, held by the pre-war German national team.—United Press.

### TALK OF THE NEXT WAR

Monterey, California, Dec. 17. Former UNRRA Director for China, Ben H. Klizer, said: "We have no cause to fear China's becoming Communist in the Russian way. China has too great a background of individualism."

The Vice Chairman of the American Institute of Pacific Relations said he expected talk of war with Russia to grow stronger during the next few months as the United States Navy and War Departments pressed Congress for appropriations.

He said: "You will notice that after the Army and Navy have put in for the appropriations this talk will subside."—Associated Press.

TO-DAY ONLY **QUEEN'S** At 2.30, 5.15, 7.15 & 9.15 p.m.



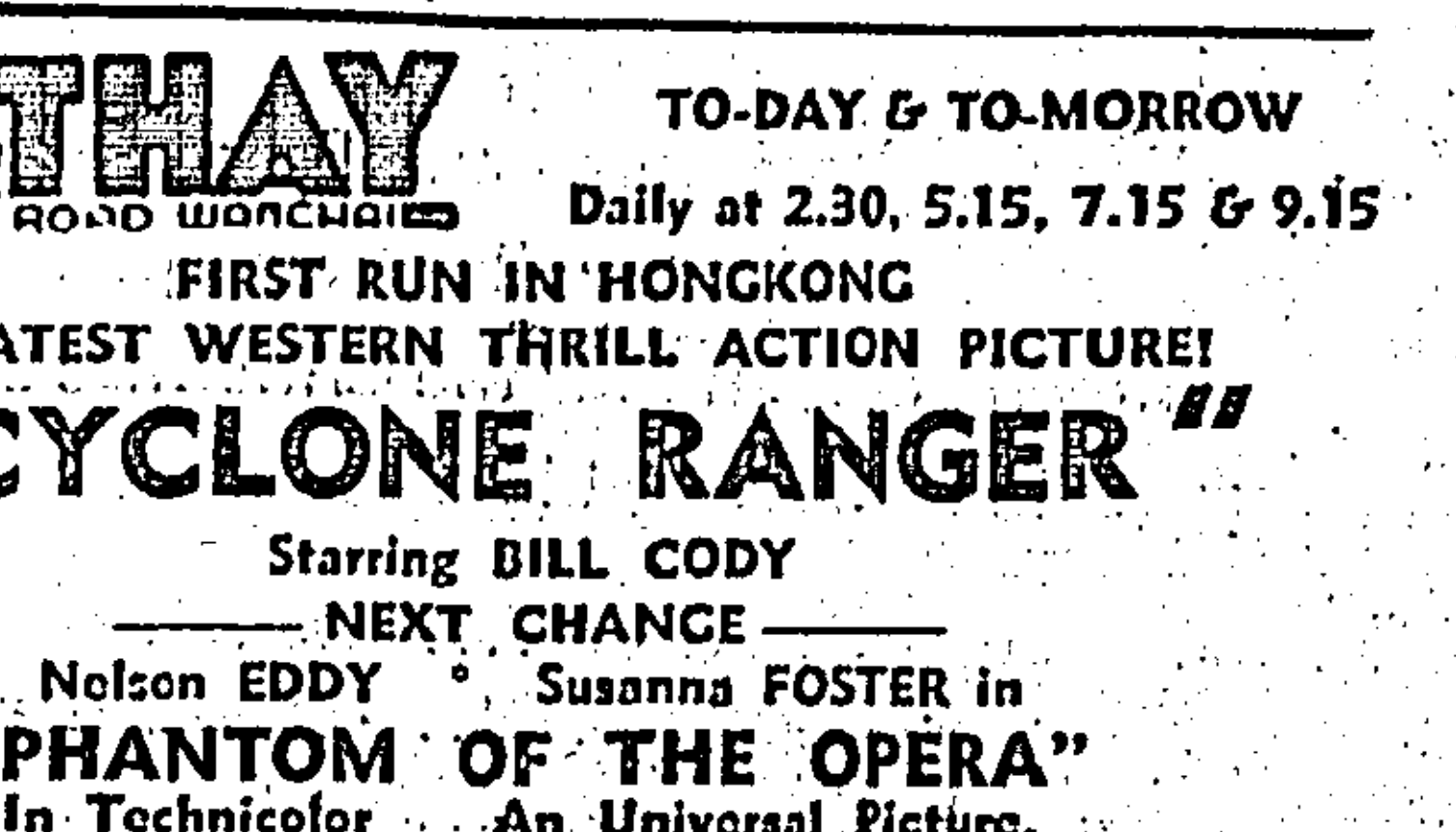
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BASIL RATHBONE • NICOL BRUCE

As Sherlock Holmes As Dr. Watson

THE "SCARLET CLAW"

with Kay HARDING. A Universal Picture

NEXT CHANCE: "THE STORY OF C.I. JOE"

CHINESE MINISTER LEAVES FOR ROME

INTENSIVE POST-WAR RECRUITING IN U.S.

Washington. Just short of a million volunteers joined the regular U.S. Army in the first year of the intensive postwar recruiting campaign, the War Department announced.—Associated Press.

THE COLDEST PLACE

Moscow, Dec. 16. The world pole of colour in least scientific language, the coldest place on earth, is in Kolyma, Turga, north-eastern Siberia, slightly east of Suntar, near the settlement of Olmekon, roughly 1,300 miles north of Salschalin, which is on the Sea of Onotok, stated Moscow radio to-day. There a temperature of 70.2 degrees Centigrade below zero has been registered. This temperature is the lowest ever recorded. Surprisingly enough, Olmekon is considerably south of the Arctic circle.—Reuter.



